GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1383
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2001
SURVEY ON LIVING STANDARD OF PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS
BIR SING MAHATO;SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to assess the number of rural poor families and their living standard;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, especially in West Bengal and Orissa;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to conduct any survey in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have received any reports regarding problems of rural poor families;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) to (c) The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) conducts Consumer Expenditure Survey in the country, once in five years. The data/information obtained through these surveys are used by the Planning Commission for estimating the percentage of people living Below Poverty Line (BPL). The details of persons living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in rural areas, State-wise, as per the estimate for 1999-2000 (latest available), including Orissa and West Bengal, are given at Annexure.

The Ministry of Rural Development also conduct BPL Census to identify the persons living below poverty line in rural areas, through the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations at the commencement of every Five Year Plan. The latest BPL Census was conducted in 1997-98. The next BPL Census is to be taken up during the year 2002.

(d) to (f) Some State Governments have requested to include those BPL families which were not included during the BPL Census - 1997. The Ministry have decided to constitute an Expert Group to recommend the criteria for identification of BPL families in the next BPL Census, to be conducted in the year 2002.

Annexure referred in Reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1383 due for Answer on 27.11.2001.

Population Below Poverty Line by State - 1999-2000

(30 days recall)

Sl. No.	State	Rural Pupulation 1999-2000 No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	58.13	11.05
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	3.80	40.04
3	ASSAM	92.17	40.04
4	BIHAR	376.51	44.30
5	GOA	0.11	1.35
6	GUJARAT	39.80	13.17
7	HARYANA	11.94	8.27
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	4.84	7.94
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR	2.97	3.97
10	KARNATAKA	59.91	17.38
11	KERALA	20.97	9.38

12	MADHYA PRADESH	217.32	37.06
13	MAHARASHTRA	125.12	23.72
14	MANIPUR	6.53	40.04
15	MEGHALAYA	7.89	40.04
16	MIZORAM	1.40	40.04
17	NAGALAND	5.21	40.04
18	ORISSA	143.69	48.01
19	PUNJAB	10.20	6.35
20	RAJASTHAN	55.06	13.74
21	SIKKIM	2.00	40.04
22	TAMIL NADU	80.51	20.55
23	TRIPURA	12.53	40.04
24	UTTAR PRADESH	412.01	31.22
25	WEST BENGAL	180.11	31.85
26	A & N ISLANDS	0.58	20.55
27	CHANDIGARH	0.06	5.75
28	D&N HAVELI	0.30	17.57
29	DAMAN & DIU	0.01	1.35
30	DELHI	0.07	0.40
31	LAKSHADWEEP	0.03	9.38
32	PONDICHERRY	0.64	20.55
	Total	1932.43	27.09

Note :

1. Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.

2. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.

3. Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu & Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu & Kashmir.

4. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.

5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab is used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.

6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

7. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.

8. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshdweep.